UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,112	09/29/2003	Jordi Ferran	200208374-1	2433

22879 7590 11/25/2005

HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER	
SHAH, MANISH S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2853	

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/674,112	FERRAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Manish S. Shah	2853	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 October 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-37* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *13-37* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *9/29/03*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-6, 8 & 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsumoto et al. (# US 2001/0052920 A1).

Matsumoto et al. discloses an ink drying system for printer including an IR heating element (element: 130, figure: 16A); a guide, to concentrate heat energy from the IR heating element on print media; and a controller procedure to control operation of the IR heating element (figure: 1).

- The ink drying system includes sensors in communication with the controller procedure to measure relative humidity and temperature (element: S1, S2, figure: 1, 8).
- The controller procedure causes the IR heating element to put out more heat in locations on the print media where print data indicate extensive use of ink than in locations where the print data indicate moderate use of ink ([0061]).
- The IR heating element is located on a print carriage (figure: 14,16A-16E,17,19).
- The IR heating elements are located on both sides of print head carried by print carriage (figure: 12).

• The guide includes a page width array of IR heating elements and guides; wherein page width array is located in forward or rearward position (figure: 1-19).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takabayashi (# US 2003/0222960 A1) in view of Matsumoto et al. (# US 2001/0052920 A1).

Takabayashi discloses an ink drying system for printer including an IR heating element ([0081], [0095]); a guide, to concentrate heat energy from the IR heating element on print media; and a controller procedure to control operation of the IR heating element (figure: 1, 3).

• The IR heating element is located on a print carriage (figure: 1-4).

• The IR heating elements are located on both sides of print head carried by print carriage (figure: 1-4).

• The guide includes a light pipe, carried by carriage and configured to direct IR energy toward print media adjacent to a print head carried by the carriage, wherein light

pipe includes a collector; a pipe, in communication with the collector; and an emitter in communication with the pipe (figure: 1).

• The guide includes a collimator to direct IR energy in a substantially straight line, substantially parallel to a carriage rod upon which a print head travels; and light pipe, movable along a carriage supporting the print head to receive IR energy from the collimator and to deliver IR energy to print media adjacent to the print head (figure: 1-4).

• The guide includes a page width array of IR heating elements and guides; wherein page width array is located in forward or rearward position (figure: 1-4).

Takabayashi differs from the claim of the present invention is that (1) the ink drying system includes sensors in communication with the controller procedure to measure relative humidity and temperature. (2) The controller procedure causes the IR heating element to put out more heat in locations on the print media where print data indicate extensive use of ink than in locations where the print data indicate moderate use of ink.

Matsumoto et al. discloses an ink drying system for printer including an IR heating element (element: 130, figure: 16A); a guide, to concentrate heat energy from the IR heating element on print media; and a controller procedure to control operation of the IR heating element (figure: 1).

• The ink drying system includes sensors in communication with the controller procedure to measure relative humidity and temperature (element: S1, S2, figure: 1, 8).

• The controller procedure causes the IR heating element to put out more heat in locations on the print media where print data indicate extensive use of ink than in locations where the print data indicate moderate use of ink ([0061]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Takabayashi by the aforementioned teaching of Matsumoto et al. in order to have a high quality printed image.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manish S. Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-2152. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Manish S. Shah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2853

MSS
11/21/05